REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-5, 7, 9-11 and 13-14 are currently pending in the application. Claim 1 is herein amended. New claims 18-22 are herein added. No new matter has been added.

Reconsideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

Applicants note that the limitation of the softening point Tsp in claims 19 and 22 to "110 °C" is based on the descriptions in the appended examples. Referring to Example 7 (page 33, Table 4), Polyester L is used as a binder, and Polyester L is a mixture of Polyester 1-3 and Polyester 2-4 as is described on Table 2 on page 27, and Polyester 2-4 has a Tsp of 110 °C as is described on Table 1 of page 24.

Referring again to Example 7 (Table 4), Applicants submit that it evidences that satisfactory results could be obtained in all the times of fixation (fixability), prevention of void formation, prevention of paper burning and photofixing energy.

The limitation of the second polyester resin to "non-crosslinked" (claims 1 and 19) or "linear" (claims 20 and 22) is also based on the descriptions in the appended examples.

As is described on Table 1 of page 24, trimellitic acid is used as a crosslinking component in the preparation of polyesters. Trimellitic acid is 1, 2, 4-benzenetricarboxylic acid, and thus it is classified under the group of trivalent monomer, that is, a monomer containing three reactive (-COOH) groups.

On the other hand, BPA-PO and BPA-EO used as an alcohol component in the preparation of second polyesters each is a dihydric alcohol containing two reactive groups (-OH) (As is apparent from formula (I) of page 11, only two reactive (-OH) groups are contained in one

monomer). Further, terephthalic acid used as an acid component is a divalent carboxylic acid containing two reactive (-COOH) groups.

In the preparation of polyesters, when only the divalent monomers containing only two reactive (-OH) groups are used as the starting material as in the second polyesters of the present invention, the resulting product is "linear" polyester having a "non-crosslinked" structure, because one monomer contains only two bonding sites. The second polyesters of the present invention are thus non-crosslinked and linear.

However, when the divalent monomer containing only two reactive (-OH) groups is used in combination with the trivalent monomer containing three reactive (-COOH) groups, i.e., trimellitic acid (crosslinking component), as in the first polyesters of the present invention, the resulting product is a "non-linear" polyester having a "crosslinked" structure. The first polyesters of the present invention are thus crosslinked and non-linear.

The above facts are apparent for experts in polymer chemistry, that is, it is technically clear that the second polyesters of the present invention, i.e., Polyesters 2-1 to 2-5 produced upon reaction of only the divalent monomers, are linear polyesters having the non-crosslinked structure.

Moreover, use of the divalent monomers is described on page 10, line 32 to page 12, line 30 of the text.

Furthermore, the use of the trivalent monomers such as trihydric or polyhydric carboxylic acids and trihydric or polyhdric alcohols are described on page 11, lines 16 to 22 and page 12, line 31 to page 13, line 1 of the text.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

Kenneth H. Salen
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 43,077
Telephone: (202) 822-1100
Facsimile: (202) 822-1111

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